

A TRUE RELATION

Of the Wonderful Apparition of a
Cross in the Moon.

VISIBLE AT
WEXFORD

And other Places, in the

Kingdom of Ireland, upon April the 4th.
1688 for two Hours together, to the Admiration
of many Eminent Persons, and others, that were
Speçtators thereof.

THE Learned tell us, that the word *Heaven*
comes from an *Hebrew Root*, which signi-
fies to *Amaze and Astonish*. And well it may,
since there are very frequently such Apparitions



in the *Heavens* as are sufficient to Astonish and Amaze not only the Vulgar, but sometimes the Philosophical beholders.

Divines do commonly divide these Apparitions or Signs of *Heaven* into two sorts, viz. Ordinary and Extraordinary.

I. Ordinary; as are the Natural Courses of the Stars, Eclipses of the Luminaries, Conjunctions, and other Irradiations of the *Planets*, &c. which the Sacred Oracles assure us, are set in the *Heavens* to distinguish of *Times and Seasons*: And yet, even these Ordinary *Phænomena's* are very Admirable to behold, and contemplate, and do serve to raise in each true Christian Breast, most Divine and Ravishing Cogitations of him who guides *Arcturus* and his Sons.

II. Extraordinary; that is, such strange and wonderful Apparitions as come beyond the common and ordinary Course of Nature, and which cannot easily be referr'd to Common Natural Causes, but are believed to Exist by some more Sublime Metaphysical Principle: As fiery Darts or Launces, flying Dragons, Armies, Cities Besieged, Comets, *Crosses*, &c. very often Visible in the Air. By the most (nay perhaps by each) of which, the great Creator is wont to give Notice to this wicked

ked World, sometimes of his Pleasure, other times of his Displeasure, as Evidences or Testimonies of his intended Mercies, or Tokens of his ensuing Anger.

Thus, the Glorious *Cross* that appeared to the Pious Emperour *Constantine*, with these words, visible to be read in the *Heavens*, *In hoc vince*, was an assured Argument of Victory to that noble Emperour, and also of the glorious encrease of Christian Religion, and the deliverance of Christians from the Persecution, Tyranny and Slavery of Pagan Power, under which both had miserably Groan'd for more than three hundred years.

Also some small time before the Civil Wars of *France* began, viz. *Anno* 1460. and that the *German War* was continued by reason of the Archbishop of *Mentz*, &c. God was pleased to denounce his Displeasure against those Countries, by a Sign in the *Heavens*, which was (saith my Author) An Image of *Christ* Crucified with a Sword, which passed along the Air from West to South, for two hours together.

So likewise before that Terrible and Dismal Conflagration of *Constantinople*, *Anno* 1539. which Burn'd not only that Great and Populous City, but even the Goal or Prison too, and therein

consumed to Ashes no less than 700. Prisoners, there was seen a Bloudy Cross flying in the Air.

I could produce many more Instances of this kind, but that is more fit for a History, than a short Narrative, or a relation of the matter of Fact, of a *Cross in the Moon*, seen at *Wexford* in the Kingdom of *Ireland*, on *April* the 4th. last past; which as it comes from a Reverend Hand, is briefly thus.

‘On the 4th. day of *April*, 1688. a Glorious *Cross* appeared in the *Moon*, which Shined most Gloriously from Seven at Night until Nine, and was seen by the whole Town of *Wexford*, and by several in the County at large, and by some in the Counties of *Carlow* and *Wicklow*, &c. — We have now several here in *Dublin* from those parts that confirm it, saying, that there was a very dark and black Circle round the *Moon*, a little distant from the Glory of the *Moon*; which black Circle was so big, that it involved a great part of the Hemisphere. And again, there was a great bright Circle round the black Circle, and then the Sky in its Natural Usual Colour. The black Circle was very black: And the *Cross*, (whose Centre was in the very Centre of the *Moon*) piercing

cing each of its Angles through the whole black Circle; and as it entered into the bright Circle, shot through the Black Circle. It appeared very Glorious like the *Sun* in each end or Angle of the *Cross*, except that end which in appearance was towards the Ground, and that too appeared Glorious at the first. In fine, they all say and affirm to have seen it two Hours; in all which time it appeared very Glorious and distinct in all its Parts, a perfect *Cross*, and most Glorious in every end, except the end tending to the Earth, and that end was like the rest of the *Cross*, (though less Splendent) the other ends being all very Glorious, and much bigger than the rest of the *Cross* proportionably.

Thus have I given you a true Account of this Stupendous Apparition of the *Cross* seen in the Moon in *Ireland* on *April* the 4th day, 1688. We may not nor dare we presume to enter into the Cabinet of God Almighty's Secrets, so far as to pretend to intimate the positive Signification or Meaning hereof though we know there can be no Sign void of Signification. But this I hope we may crave leave inoffensively to conjecture. That, if this Coelestial Apparition intend any thing, it may prenote that the *Cross* the true Ensign.

sign of Christian Honour, should be Advanced beyond the Power of the Enemies thereof, to do it any remarkable Prejudice. And what if it should forebode the Destruction of all the Lunate Crosses in Germany, Hungary, &c. which the Haughty *Turks* have set up there in token of their Victories and Successes against the *Christians*, to the great Dishonour of Christianity and a Crucified God, as they most contemptibly term our ever Blessed Redeemer *Jesus Christ*.

I say, if it fore-taken any thing, it must certainly be the Ruine and Destruction of the *Turks* and grand Enemies of true Christian Religion, else why should the *Cross* out-shine the *Moon* in Glory? And why should the *Moon* be thus Affected in an Equinoctial Sign? (For she was then in that part of the *Heavens* which *Astrologers* call *Libra*.) And why in the *Via Combusta*, or the most Inflammable part of the *Zodiack*? Unless to declare the more powerfully the Disgrace and utter Ruine of the *Turkish* Power. Why this *Cross* to be visible in the *Moon*, and not in or with any other *Planer*, and at this time too? But that the *Moon* being the *Turk's* Planet, does hereby plainly shew them to be totally Eclipsed by the *Christian* Arms; i. e. the power of the *Cross*. And why this Glorious Apparition
even

even the very Night before the *Moon* was Eclipsed too? But only to shew that the Destruction of the *Mahometan* Power will be the more sudden and speedily accomplished, ~~2^d make~~ way for the Triumphant Honour of the *Cross*: For on *April* the 5th day at Night the *Moon* was Eclipsed, as may be seen even by the Common *Almanacks* of this Year.

To Conclude, we hope and pray, that the *Emperours* Arms (as we no way doubt but they will) prove Victorious against the *Turks*, the common Enemy of God and Christian Religion; and that even in this year 1688. (this *Annus Mirabilis*, as by many expected) the Puissant Duke of *Lorraine* will Subdue all *Hungary*, and by the power of his Arms Plant the *Cross* above the *Moon* in *Constantinople* it self, as they, (viz. the *Turks*) most insolently (formerly) set the *Moon* above the *Cross* on *St. Stephen's Church* in the Famous City of *Vienna*.

POST-

even the very Night before the Moon was Eclipsed too! But only to shew that the Destruction of the Mahometan Power will be the more sudden and speedily accomplished, by the way for the

POSTSCRIPT.

IF any Over-curious shall question the Truth of this Relation, I let them know, First, It came from a Reverend Hand as he received it from a Friend in Dublin. Secondly, I have seen a Letter from The Right Honourable the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, which intimates the Truth of the Relation. Thirdly, I have Consulted some that keep Diaries of the Weather, and they assure me though the 3d. and 4th. days of April with us in England were producers of Storms, of Wind, Hail and Rain, yet both the Evenings presented us with Halo's about the Moon, which makes it highly probable (were the other convincing Relations wanting) that this Apparition of the Cross was Indubitably True.

With Allowance.

LONDON, Printed by George Croom, at the Blue-Ball in Thames-street near Baynard's-Castle. 1688.